



San Diego City Attorney CASEY GWINN

MEDIA RELEASE

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CITY OF SAN DIEGO HONORS PROSECUTOR OF THE YEAR

San Diego, CA (July 17, 2000) -- Today, San Diego City Attorney Casey Gwinn and the San Diego City Council honored with a proclamation the recipient of the 1999 City of San Diego Prosecutor of the Year Award. Deputy City Attorney Steven Gold, who has served as a deputy city attorney for more than 12 years, was selected as the Prosecutor of the Year for his work in the City Attorney's Consumer and Environmental Protection Unit.

In 1999, Gold handled a large caseload of high-profile cases, including a series of consumer protection lawsuits against Rite Aid, one of the largest retail drug store chains in the United States. Working in partnership with district attorneys from across California, Gold obtained multi-million dollar settlements. Rite Aid agreed to pay penalties, costs, and restitution in the suits that alleged the drug store chain was selling expired products, and was engaging in misleading advertising and unfair competition.

Last year, Gold also prosecuted cases involving unlicensed contractors, marketers making false claims, and manufacturers polluting the environment by unlawfully disposing of waste. Offenders in these cases were ordered to serve time in jail, perform community work service, and pay fines and victim restitution. Gold builds partnerships with law enforcement agencies, and participates on task forces, in trainings, and in consumer information fairs to raise awareness of consumer and environmental protection issues. Gold also volunteers for a non-profit organization dedicated to children and organizes the City Attorney's annual blood drive.

San Diego City Attorney Casey Gwinn has established the Prosecutor of the Year Award to acknowledge and reward the Deputy City Attorney whose professional accomplishments and abilities and whose contributions to the community best demonstrate and fulfill the mission of the Criminal Division of the City Attorney's Office. The Criminal Division is dedicated to protecting the safety and quality of life of the people of San Diego by intervening to stop criminal conduct at the misdemeanor level. We provide legal services to the public with professionalism, integrity, and excellence, focusing on aggressive, just, and effective prosecution; early intervention and proactive lawyering; and public awareness of legal issues affecting the people of San Diego.

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